

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding. Council members Joseph Abban, Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Andrew Eggers, Keith Fox and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer's Assistant Stephanie Shepherd, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Councilor Wertz offered an invocation. Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Mayor McGuinness led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Presentations

Swearing in of Probationary Officer Kody Martin – Mayor McGuinness swore in probationary police officer Kody Martin and welcomed him to the Franklin Police Department.

Mr. Matt Prine came forward and introduced himself, he is running for House District 47, and gave an overview of his background, and what he hopes to achieve if he is elected.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the February 1, 2016 Common Council Minutes

Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Eggers. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Old Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all old business by title only, seconded by Councilor Fox. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Public Hearing

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 16-01 A Budgetary Ordinance Authorizing an Additional Appropriation for Non-Tax Supported Funds - Mayor McGuinness stated this budgetary ordinance was an annual housekeeping issue that was introduced at the previous meeting. A discussion was held. Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for public hearing. No

one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Eggers. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 16-02 A Budgetary Ordinance Authorizing an Additional Appropriation for Rainy Day Capital - Mayor McGuinness stated that this item had been introduced at the previous meeting, and opened the floor for public hearing. No one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Fox. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

New Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all new business by title only, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 16-03 - An Additional Appropriation Ordinance Park & Rec - Capital & Rainy Day Services – Mayor McGuinness stated this item is for introduction only tonight. Parks Superintendent Chip Orner came forward and presented a slide presentation to explain what this money is needed for. Mr. Orner explained the most pressing issues for 2016. A discussion was held. This will be brought back at the March 21st meeting for approval.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 16-04 An Additional Appropriation Ordinance Grants/Police - Supplies – Mayor McGuinness stated that this item is for introduction only tonight. Police Chief Tim O'Sullivan stated he is asking to use part of the money they received from the Drug Free Johnson County Grant to purchase supplies in the amount of \$1,392.00. This will be brought back at the next meeting.

Common Council Resolution No.:16-02 A Resolution Setting Forth Final Action in Determining an Economic Revitalization Area and Confirming Resolution 2016-01 of February 1st, 2016; Common Council Resolution No.: 16-03 A Resolution Granting Tax Abatement for Pierce Hardy Limited Partnership; Common Council Resolution No.: 16-05 A Resolution Granting Tax Abatement for 84 Lumber Company - Community Development Director Krista Linke stated this item was introduced in February, and is now ready for approval of the confirming resolution. Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for a public hearing, no one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve Resolution 16-02 determining an economic revitalization area and confirming Resolution 16-01, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve Resolution 16-03 a resolution granting tax abatement for Pierce Hardy Limited Partnership, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. Council President Barnett made a

motion to approve Resolution 16-05 a resolution granting tax abatement for 84 Lumber, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Resolution No. 16-06 A Declaratory Resolution Designating an Economic Revitalization Area for Fisher Contracting, LLC; Common Council Resolution -

Community Development Director Krista Linke stated this is the first step in a two step process. Ms. Linke stated that for real property tax abatement this area needs to be declared an economic development area. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Eggers. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Resolution No.: 16-09 A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana Approving Certain Matters in Connection with the Establishment of an Economic Development Area and Allocation Areas and the Approval of an Economic Development Plan for Said Area – Counselor Rob Schafstall came forward and stated that he is representing the Redevelopment Commission (RDC). Mr. Schafstall stated that the RDC would like to redevelopment the US 31 corridor from Jefferson Street north to Knollwood with the primary purpose to add pedestrian improvements, they may have to obtain some right-of-ways, do some sewer work, drainage and etc. The preliminary cost is between ten to twenty million dollars. The RDC must first create an economic development area. The creation of a north allocation area would be on Commerce Drive, and an east & west lower quadrant which would include Meijer and the former Aarons Store. The south zone would be across from Franklin Middle School which would include Kroger and any other new development in this area. Mr. Schafstall stated that this would be a three step process. The first step was for the RDC to pass a declaratory resolution; the second step was to go before the Plan Commission for approval; and the third step would be to get the City Councils approval to move forward. A discussion was held. Councilor Wertz made a motion to approve, seconded by Council President Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 16-02 An Ordinance Authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Franklin, Indiana, to Deposit, Invest, and Reinvest Funds in Local Financial Institutions Designated as Depositories – Mayor McGuinness stated that this was another annual housekeeping issue. This will be brought back at the March 21st meeting.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 16-03 An Ordinance of the City of Franklin Determining the Materiality Threshold for Reporting Irregular Variances, Losses, Shortages, and Thefts - City Attorney Lynn Gray stated that this was something the state legislature has just passed. The State Board of Accounts is now requiring the Clerk-Treasurer's office to send in an accounting of taxpayer funds, and any material differences in deposits they are receiving. Ms. Gray stated that the new law does not define materiality, and that it is up to each individual city to decide. Ms. Gray stated she chose \$500.00 variance as our amount to be reported.

Verification is required to define what material is, this will be brought back at the next meeting.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 16-04 An Ordinance of the City of Franklin Adopting Uniform Internal Control Standards for Indiana Political Subdivisions - City Attorney Lynn Gray stated this is an internal control ordinance to require the Clerk-Treasurer's office to report to the State Board of Accounts and certify by June 2016 that the city has adopted an internal control procedures. A discussion was held. This will be brought back at the next meeting.

Economic Development Fees - Community Development Director Krista Linke stated that each year when a tax abatement is approved companies are asked to agree to an economic development fee. When taxes are collected we receive this money. Taxes were collected the first half of last year, and an additional amount was collected at the end of 2015, for a total of \$3640.56 available for disbursement to certain non-profit agencies. It was the Economic Development Commission (EDC) recommendation to divide this money equally between the following non-profit agencies: Franklin Heritage, Discover Downtown Franklin, Franklin Education Connection, Johnson County Development Corporation, Franklin Development Commission, and Franklin Chamber of Commerce. This amount divided equally would be \$606.76 to each group. If this is approved by the Council, Ms. Linke will notify the Auditors office to cut the checks to these organizations. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Other Business

There was no other business presented.

Council Comments

Councilor Wertz stated that there would be Redevelopment Commission (RDC) meeting on March 15th at 8:00 a.m. in Council Chambers.

Councilor Ault stated that the Mayor may receive phone calls because he will be taking the cannon from the cemetery in the next week or so.

Mr. Greg Moore thanked the City Council for working with the Kuji student exchange program, and stated that ten (10) children from Franklin Middle School and Franklin High School were able to go to Kuji Japan thanks to this program. Mr. Moore stated that he hopes they will be able to do this again in the future.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Rhoades, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled:3/14/2016

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Jayne Rhoades, Clerk-Treasurer